AC 446/63 KNOTTINGLEY

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1940.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

In view of the present circumstances and the Ministry of Health Circular dated 25/10/38, I append herewith abbreviated statistics for the year 1940.

HEALTH 7 JUL 42 27 O.R.

General Statistics.

Area in Acres.	2,837.
Registrar General's Estimated Population.	8,776.
Number of Inhabited Houses.	2,441.
Rateable Value.	£53,177.
Product of One Penny Rate.	£287.

The population is less than in 1939, but only due to the call up of men for the forces. Also, Knottingley being classified as an area not suitable for the reception of evacuees, only a few persons came into the area of their own accord.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births, Legitimate, 89 Males. 72 Females. Total. 161.
Illegitimate. 4 Males. 2 Females. Total. 6.
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, 18.81.

Still Births, Legitimate, 4 Males. 2 Females. Total. 6.
Illegitimate, - - -
Rate per 1,000 live and still births, 27.8.

Deaths, Allcauses, 63 Males. 47 Females. Total. 110.
Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages).	4.
Measles. "	0.
Whooping Cough. "	0.
Diarrhoea (under 2 years).	0.

Death Rate per 1,000 Population 12.53.

The Birth Rate in the Knottingley Urban District is 18.81 against 14.30 for England and Wales. The Death Rate from all causes is 12.53 against 14.60 for England and Wales, so that both these figures compare very favourably.
The Infantile Death Rate for the County is 55, Knottingley 27.80 (last year 50)
The principal causes of death were heart diseases, 26 cases, there were no deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years).

Infectious Diseases.

	Number notified.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	8	3	-
Whooping Cough.	4	-	-
Diphtheria.	14	14	3
Erysipelas.	1	-	-
Measles.	102	-	-
Pneumonia.	12	-	7
Puerperal Fever or Pyrexia.	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	-	-	1
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary.	3	-	5
" Non "	1	-	1

The above rates are less than the whole County and may be considered reasonable. Measles cases (102) were practically all in October and November 1940.

Military personnel were housed in the District, but mostly in independant billets except for a few soldiers and their wives.

The Sanitary conditions and circumstances are dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. G. J. Laverick in his report, there are no special matters calling for special comment.

I am, Gentlemen, Your Obedient Servant.

J Kehelly. M.O.H.

BRITISH MUSEUM

Report of the Sanitary Inspector for year 1940.

To, Dr. J. Kehelly, Medical Officer of Health.
Sir,

I have the honour to present an abbreviated form of annual report for the above year. I am pleased to report that no outbreak of any disease occured except as reported in the Medical Officer's report.

Herewith are the Statistics and Social Conditions found during the year.

Nuisances.

No. of Inspections and Nuisances found,	66.
No. outstanding from previous year,	12.
Total,	78.
No. abated in 1940,	81.
No. now outstanding,	7.

One Statutory Notice was served and the Nuisance abated.

Water.

During the previous year a 3" main was laid to the Nevison Leap area, but a Liquorice Factory developed in this area and also the Osgoldcross Rural District took more water from our mains at Ferrybridge, making the supply at Nevison Leap lack in volume and in pressure. This was improved, but if the Factory developes to any large extent something further will have to be considered.

The Holmefield area, which came into the district in 1937 from the Pontefract Rural is the only portion of the district without Town's Supply. There are two wells of fair organic purity.

Cesspools.

There are some twenty cesspools in the area and these are only in parts which cannot be sewered. The Council provided the Department with a Mechanical Cesspool Emptier and this is a big step for improvement. The cesspools are now emptied regularly without nuisance.

Sewage Disposal.

My Council have temporarily had to abandon the new Sewage Works proposed for Ferrybridge.

I have recommended a temporary scheme of earth sludge and irrigation beds which my Council will agree to, this scheme will certainly improve the effluent now discharging into the river from these works.

The Knottingley Works give a very satisfactory effluent.

Food.

No slaughtering is done in Knottingley at the present time. All animals are inspected and slaughtered in the Pontefract Borough and only approved carcases are sent to the butchers at Knottingley.

A fair amount of tinned food has been condemned and burned, being unfit for human consumption.

Housing.

Houses inspected and recorded.	31.
Houses unfit but allowed temporary rpairs.	20.
Houses requiring further attention.	9.
Houses voluntarily closed.	2.
Houses commenced in 1939 and completed in 1940.	46.
Number of families rehoused from Clearance area of 1938 Order.	46.
Houses built by Private Enterprises.	2.

All houses commenced before the war, ie 110 have been fully completed, 64 in 1939 and 46 in 1940 and all Clearance orders approved have now been rehoused, so that there are no outstanding areas to be dealt with and a new start can be made after the war.

Only 4 overcrowding cases were reported and these changed about with other tenants and the nuisances abated.

Signed, G. J. Laverick, Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector.

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66